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By:

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF (X) (M) Sujon Lou, R.N. LICENSE NO. 26NR13983400

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

CONSENT ORDER

The New Jersey State Board of Nursing is charged with the duty and responsibility of regulating the practice of nursing in the State of New Jersey pursuant to the Nurse Practice Act, N.J.S.A. 45:11-1 et seq. and regulations set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:37-14.1 et seq.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:11-23, all homemaker-home health aides are required to be certified by the Board as they are performing nursing tasks delegated by a licensed registered professional nurse. N.J.A.C. 13:37-6.2 requires that the registered professional nurse shall be responsible for exercising that degree of judgment and knowledge reasonably expected to assure

that a proper delegation has been made including that a registered professional nurse may not delegate the performance of a nursing task to persons who have not been adequately prepared by verifiable training and education.

Sujon Lou ("Respondent") holds New Jersey license 26NR13983400 as a Registered Nurse with the Board. Respondent is employed by Practice Home Care Services, Inc. d/b/a Homewatch Caregivers ("Homewatch") in Bridgewater, New Jersey, as a Registered Nurse. Beginning in 2005, and for every subsequent year thereafter, Respondent was identified by Homewatch as the Director of Nursing and as an owner with a minority interest in the business.

Through its investigation, the Board has determined that while serving as Director of Nursing for Homewatch, Respondent engaged in multiple violations of N.J.S.A. 45:11-23 and N.J.A.C. 13:37-6.2 and N.J.A.C. 13:37-14.3 by failing to assure that the agency operated in a manner consistent with statutes and regulations (as a minority co-owner of the agency); failing to formalize a Plan of Care for its clients; failing to ensure that aides assigned to clients who required personal care were Certified Homemaker-Home Health Aides; failing to confirm and document that the care provided did not exceed the scope of the delegated tasks and procedures; and/or failing to ensure that the delegated tasks were performed in a satisfactory manner.

Given the above, the Board finds that Respondent engaged in multiple acts of professional misconduct pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and/or has violated the statutes and/or regulations governing the practice of nursing pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h).

The parties being desirous of resolving this matter, and the Board, being satisfied that entry of the within Order obviates the need for formal proceedings, and being further satisfied that the within disposition is adequately protective of the public health, safety and welfare, and for good cause shown

IT IS, therefore, ON THIS (o day of February, 2014, ORDERED and AGREED that:

- 1. Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of New Jersey shall be suspended for a period of two years effective upon entry of the within Consent Order. Three (3) months of the suspension shall be active, during which Respondent shall cease and desist from the practice of nursing within ten (10) days of receipt of a filed copy of this Consent Order. The remaining twenty-one (21) months shall be stayed and served as a period of probation, provided that Respondent demonstrates compliance with all the terms and conditions of the within Consent Order. No credit shall be granted toward the active period of suspension for any period during which Respondent is practicing any type of nursing in any other jurisdiction or country.
- 2. Respondent is assessed an aggregate civil penalty of \$5,000 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25 for the violations described herein. The total payment of \$5,000 shall be made by wire transfer, or by bank check, money order, or certified check made payable to the State of New Jersey and sent to George Hebert, Executive Director of the Board of Nursing, 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, P.O. Box 45027, Newark, NJ 07101. Any payment in a form other than those noted above will be rejected and returned. Subsequent violations of Board statutes, regulations, or orders, including this Consent Order, will subject Respondent to enhanced penalties pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25.
- 3. Respondent shall reimburse the Board's investigative costs and fees totaling \$7,785.16 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25(d). The payment of said costs and fees shall be stayed provided that Respondent complies with the terms of this Consent Order and the rules and regulations governing the practice of nursing in the State of New Jersey.

- 4. Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete a Board-approved educational course in ethics. "Successful completion" means that Respondent attended all sessions of the course, fully participated in the course, and received a final evaluation of an unconditional pass. The Board further requests that Respondent submit to the Board written verification that Respondent satisfactorily completed all requirements of the course. Respondent shall be responsible for the costs of the required course.
- 5. The Board shall retain jurisdiction to enforce the terms of this Order. Upon receipt of any reliable information indicating that Respondent has violated any term of this Order, the Board reserves the right to bring further disciplinary action.

NEW JERSEY STATI	BOARD OF	NURSING
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By:

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN, FAAN

Precident

I have read and understood the within Order and agree to be bound by its terms.

Sujon Lou, R.N.

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I hereby consent to the form and entry of this Order,

Richard West, Esq.

Counsel to Sujon Lou, R.N.

1-30-15

Date